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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/977,867 10/14/2001 Jeffrey Charles Hawkins HAND.P0011 4308

23349 7590 04/14/2003

STATTLER JOHANSEN & ADELI
P O BOX 51860
PALO ALTO, CA 94303

EXAMINER

WU, XIAO MIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2674

8

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/977,867

Applicant(s)

HAWKINS ET AL.

Examiner

XIAO M. WU

Art Unit

2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. In response to the restriction requirement, applicant elects claim group I without traverse and delete claims 5-20. However, claim group I contains claims 1-14 and group II contains claims 15-20. Examiner assumes applicant is intended to cancel claims 15-20, not 5-20. if examiner's assumption is correct, applicant is advised to cancel claim 15-20 in response to this office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-9 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nashijima (Pub. No. US 2001/0011026).

As to claim 1, Nashijima discloses a charging and communication system for a handheld computer system (7, Figs. 1 and 2), the handheld computer system (7) having a first interface (7a, 7b, Fig. 2) for receiving power and data communication signals (e.g. element 7b for receiving power from a power supply 16, and the element 7a for receiving data from another computer 1), the charging and communication system comprising: a charger system (16, 17, 19) for supplying electrical power, the charger system having a second interface (19) for coupling

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with the first interface; and a data communication and charging cable (12, Fig. 1), the data communication and charging cable comprising a third interface (18, Fig. 2) for coupling to the handheld computer system (7), a fourth interface (4, Fig. 1) for coupling to a second computer system (1), and a fifth interface (e.g. the connection between the power supply and the conductor 9, see Fig. 2) for coupling to the second interface of the charger system.

As to claim 2, Nashijima discloses that the fourth interface (4, Fig. 1) comprises a Universal Serial Bus interface (e.g. USB interface 4, see col. 2, paragraph [0038]).

As to claim 4, Nashijima discloses that the third interface (18) comprises a small connector (18) for coupling to the first interface (7a) of the handheld computer system.

As to claims 5, 12, Nashijima discloses that the third interface comprises a docking cradle (11, Fig. 1) for coupling to the first interface of the handheld computer system.

As to claims 6, 7, 13 and 14, Nashijima discloses that the docking cradle including a six interface (11b, Fig. 1) for coupling to the third interface (18, Fig. 2) and a seventh interface (11b) for coupling to the first interface (7a, Fig. 2) of the handheld computer system.

As to claim 8, Nashijima discloses a method of providing charging power and data communication signals to a handheld computer system, the handheld computer system having a first interface (7a, 7b, Fig. 2) for receiving power and data communication signals, the method comprising: coupling a second interface (18, 19) on a data communication and charging cable (12, Fig. 1) to the first interface of the handheld computer system, the data communication and charging cable further comprising a third interface (18, Fig. 2) for receiving data signals and a fourth interface (19, Fig. 2) for receiving power; and a charging system (16, 17) for supplying electrical power, the charger system having a fifth interface system (e.g. the connection between

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the power supply and the conductor 9, see Fig. 2) for coupling with the first interface on the handheld computer.

As to claim 9, Nashijima discloses that the third interface (18) comprises a Universal Serial Bus interface (e.g. USB interface cable 12).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 3, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nashijima (Pub. No. US 2001/0011026) in view of Liang et al. (Pub. No. US 2002/0038394).

As to claims 3 and 10, it is noted that Nashijima disclose using a USB interface for connecting the handheld computer to another computer system. Nashijima does not specifically disclose using a standard serial interface. Liang is cited to teach a charging and communication system for a handheld computer system similar to Nashijima. As shown in Fig. 4, Liang

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discloses a handheld computer device (412, 414) is coupled to a computer by a standard serial interface (e.g. RS 232). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Nashijima with features of the standard serial interface (RS 232) as taught by Liang, so that different kind of interfaces can be used for the handheld computer device.

As to claim 11, Liang further discloses a connector (Fig. 3) connecting between the handheld computer and another main computer. The connector comprises a sync button (308) similar to applicant's invention for triggering the data transfer between two computers.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The US Patents 6,064,177, 6,184,652, 6,329,787, 6,465,987 and the Pub. No. US2002/0147036, US2002/0177473, US2002/0195993 are cited to teach a charging and communication system for a handheld computer device.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Xiao Wu whose telephone number is (703) 305-4721.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on (703) 305-4709.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

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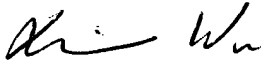
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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377

xw

April 1, 2003


XIAO WU
PRIMARY EXAMINER
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